

From: lamm@met.fsu.edu@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/30/01 3:30pm
Subject: settlement

This is bad solution. It allows Micr. to do have the same effect as before. What is needed is for the consumer to have the chance to get \$100-\$200 back that was usually paid to Micr. if he agrees not to use their software. This should be a mandatory part of all liscenses Micr. signs with OEMs. This has never been the case and the proposed settlement doesn't help. As long as a Windows/Office tax is bundled in, nobody else has a chance. Just look at Hewlett Packard -- they will sell you a linux box for \$100 more than Win 2000. They should have an option where you pay \$100 LESS for no Windows 2000 and then they could just get something like Linux for free. from Red Hat/Linux Central/ or a friend. Until the consumer has a chance to save the \$100 there is no point.

Jim Lamm Ph.d. Computer science